

REMARKS

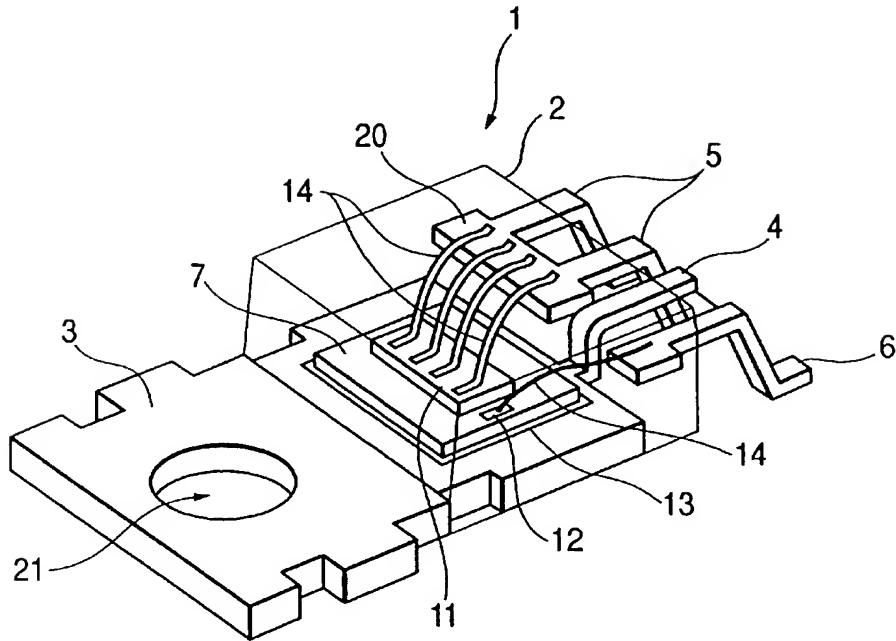
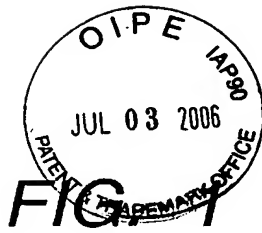
The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1-13, 23 and 25-29 were previously pending in the application. These claims are cancelled and replaced with new claims 30-46.

Claims 1-10 and 25-28 were rejected as anticipated by TAKAHASHI et al. JP 2000-049184.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested because the reference does not disclose a second lead element having a second inner portion and a second outer portion, the second inner portion being bonded and electrically connected to a second electrode as recited in new claim 30.

Rather, as seen in Figure 1 of TAKAHASHI, reproduced below, lead element 5 is connected to an electrode on the top of semiconductor chip 7 through wires 14. TAKAHASHI does not disclose that an inner portion of a second lead element is bonded to a second electrode as recited.



New independent claim 39 recites a second lead element being bonded and electrically connected to a second electrode at an inner end thereof. The analysis above regarding claim 30 is equally applicable to claim 39. Claims 31-38 depend from claim 30 and claims 40-46 depend from claim 39 and further define the invention and are also believed patentable over TAKAHASHI.

Claims 11-13 were rejected as unpatentable over TAKAHASHI et al. in view of CROWLEY et al. US 2003/0075785; claim 23 was rejected as unpatentable over TAKAHASHI et al. in view of NAKAMURA et al. 6,297,544 and claim 29 was rejected as unpatentable over TAKAHASHI et al. in view of UCHIDA US 2005/0121799.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested as these references do not overcome the shortcomings of TAKAHASHI with respect to the independent claims and are only directed to features of the dependent claims.

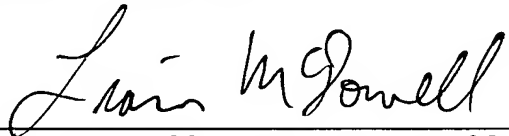
Support for the new claims can be found in Figures 4-27, for example.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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